Welcome to the Georgia Association for Career & Technical Education 65th Annual Summer Leadership Conference! During this conference you will experience important networking opportunities, introduction to important innovations, and you will be provided important information through keynote speakers.

Alan November is an international leader in education technology. He began his career as an oceanography teacher and dorm counselor at an island reform school for boys in Boston Harbor. While Alan was a computer science teacher in Lexington, MA, he was probably the first teacher in the world to have a student project on line in 1984, a database for the handicapped. He has been director of an alternative high school, computer coordinator, technology consultant and university lecturer. He has helped schools, governments and industry leaders improve the quality of education through technology (November Learning, 2011).

November Learning, (2011). More About Alan November. Retrieved from: <http://novemberlearning.com/team/alan-november/>

Before our speaker comes forth I would like to give you some information about intellectual property. What is Intellectual Property? Intellectual property is any innovation, commercial or artistic, or any unique name, symbol, logo or design used commercially.

Intellectual property is protected by

•  patents on inventions;

•  trademarks on branding devices;

•  copyrights on music, videos, patterns and other forms of expression;

•  trade secrets for methods or formulas having economic value and used commercially

For more information please visit: [www.wipo.int/about-ip/en](http://www.wipo.int/about-ip/en).

We deal with intellectual property on a daily basis therefore, it is important that we don’t misuse it. If we “borrow” or use someone else’s work we must give credit where credit is due. This goes back to the importance of identifying where you get information or resources from. Plagiarism comes from using someone’s intellectual property and passing it off as your own. With the use of the internet, intellectual property has become easier to access. This means that more people are using and sharing the property of others. There have been lawsuits pertaining to the theft of someone’s intellectual property.

The benefit to having intellectual property is we all can grow mentally from reading, hearing, or experiencing someone else’s work. We can use intellectual property to support our thoughts about a topic. If we create our own intellectual property we can receive credit for our creation. Distance Education is an area where intellectual property is very important. Instructors create course materials that use their own written work as well as articles, books, and videos from others.

One of the articles I read about intellectual property is titled *National Distance Education Trends and Issues*. In this article Sharon DeVary, Doctoral student, discusses Intellectual Property as it relates to distance education. IP has become an important issue because of the increase use of the internet. IP issues may require policies and procedure changes in distance education. DeVary list multiple areas of concern: the need for policies regarding faculty authoring and ownership, student authoring and ownership, the impact or the work-for-hire employment status on authoring and ownership, and online course material and licensing issues (DeVary, 2008).

Reference:

DeVary, S. (2008). National Distance Education Trends and Issues. *Distance Learning*, *5*(1), 55-60.

The historical background, intellectual property legislation, important issues, and industrial organization are also topics in this article. It is important that policies are created to elevate any IP problems that could occur. There should be clear copyright policies in place. There is also a digital piece to intellectual property relating to DE that would require assistance from technical support.

Reference:

DeVary, S. (2008). National Distance Education Trends and Issues. *Distance Learning*, *5*(1), 55-60.

**The mission of WIPO is to promote innovation and creativity for the economic, social and cultural development of all countries, through a balanced and effective international intellectual property system.**

**World Intellectual Property Day**

**April 26, 2012**

On World IP Day this year we celebrate **visionary innovators**.

**(World Intellectual Property Organization , 2012)**

http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/

Next, I will read a poem I wrote. This is a brief example of intellectual property. After I finish the next voice you will hear is that of Mr. Alan November!

Intellectual property is important in today’s society. Without our reliance on IP how would we gain the knowledge we need to earn our High school, under graduated and graduate degrees? It is important that you give credit where credit is due, so you won’t end up at the center of a lawsuit. IP is responsible for many of the inventions and innovations of today. If it wasn’t for IP you would not be able to hear or see this presentation created by me! – Written by Christina Ransey 2/26/12

November Learning, (2011). More About Alan November. Retrieved from: <http://novemberlearning.com/team/alan-november/>

**World Intellectual Property Organization , (2012 ).** What is intellectual property? Retrieved from: <http://www.wipo.int/about-ip/en>

DeVary, S. (2008). National Distance Education Trends and Issues. *Distance Learning*, *5*(1), 55-60.

**World Intellectual Property Organization , (2012)**

http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/